

Meeting Minutes

Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission Tuesday, March 22, 2016 – Minneapolis Central Library

Meeting attendees: Ishmael Israel, Brauillo Carrasco, David Boyd, Raya Esmaeili, Nick Cichowicz, Queen Kimmons, Doron Clark, Debra Behrens, Nasser Mussa and David Zaffrann.

NCEC members excused: Jeanne Montrese, Tessa Wetjen, Antione Martinneau, Denis Houle Francisco Segovia, and Eric Gustafson.

1. Public Comment

No one appeared to address the Commission.

2. Introductions

Call to order: Israel called the March meeting of the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission to order at 5:14p.m. Behrens extended an invitation to the Boiler Room Coffee House for the Stevens Square Spring Social being held on April 1.

2b Agenda Approval:

Motion: Carrasco moves to accept the agenda as written, seconded by Esmaeili, Motion carries unanimously.

3. Executive Committee Reports

3a. Chairs' Report

Waived to allow time for other items.

3b. Secretary's Report - February minutes

Motion: Behrens moves to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Esmaeili. Motion carries unanimously.

3c. Establishment of grievance committee

An overview of the current grievance procedure was presented by Howard Blin.

Boyd, Cichowicz, Israel, and Esmaeili volunteered to carry out the work of the grievance committee.

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department at 612-673-3737. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626.

Para asistencia 612-673-2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadio aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.

3d. Strategic Plan Update

Tabled until next month

4. Neighborhoods

4a. Community Participation Program (CPP) Guidelines Revisions

Robert Thompson shared that the CPP guidelines have been sent to the neighborhood organizations for feedback. He also met with the Committee of the Whole a couple weeks ago and another meeting is scheduled for March 29. Right now comments are being captured and will be incorporated into the draft document. After the document has been updated with the revisions, it will be presented to the NCEC before it goes out for a 45 day review period. After final comments are incorporated, the final draft will be presented back to the NCEC, NRP Policy Board and the City Council. It should be ready to go back out to neighborhoods in July or early August, once final approval is given by the City Council, so that neighborhoods can start preparing their budgets for 2017.

The NCEC has deferred to the Neighborhood 2020 committee for their review and comment however with the timing of their work is such that they have not had the chance to review the document. The NCEC will wait until its next meeting to take official action on the CPP Guidelines. The Neighborhood 2020 Committee meets on the March 24 at CANDO. You may direct comment to Eric Gustafson if you can't make the meeting.

In order to not limit response to the CPP the Commission recommends changing the word "members" to "stakeholders". Instead of changing the word "members" a clarification of the word members may be more helpful.

4b. Community Innovation Fund Committee Updates

This fund is in its first project cycle of a two year cycle. The status on projects varies depending on the progress each neighborhood has made. The committee would like to discuss ways to sharpen the process; possibly restructuring it. The invitation was extended to Commissioners to join the committee. An update of the projects will soon be available for all commissioners to see. The committee will meet again in July to further review the status of projects. The committee would like to bring in the 13 grantees in to present to the committee about their projects.

5. Community Engagement

5a. Community Connections Conference

Cichowicz updated the Commission on the conference. The planning committee has met every Monday to plan the conference. Everyone is encouraged to register and come to the conference. As of today we are over 400 people registered, well ahead of last year's registrants at this point. Commissioners are invited to join the NCEC learning lab presentation. Also, encourage commissioners to have people register for the NCEC learning lab. Please like and use NCEC Facebook page (City of Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission) to share information.

5b. Future Community Outreach by NCEC

Israel opened the discussion and posed the questions that have been raised regarding outreach by the NCEC: How do we do our work and bring our visibility up? How do we give residents access to our work and have them be more impactful on the direction of the NCEC?

Israel stated that among the ideas that have come out are to have meetings out in the city.

Carrasco asked for training from the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) to get a better understanding of what community engagement means. Blin responded that there will be opportunities to for IAP2 training in the near future.

Boyd suggested doing popups to share experiences from different neighborhoods.

Zaffrann suggested coming up with an official proposal to do community outreach. He proposed to use the Committee of the Whole meetings to do community outreach.

Motion by Zaffrann, Seconded by Boyd, that starting in July 2016 the NCEC will commit to holding no fewer than three Community Forums per year to be held on normal Committee of the Whole meeting dates to on topics to be determined. Motion carries unanimously.

The Commission discussed exploring different ways to share NCEC meetings and have relevant and timely topics for community forums. The concern was raised about the effectiveness of these meetings if only a few commissioners are in attendance. The timeliness and effective engagement strategies of this project needs to be discussed further.

6. NCR Report

NCR is assisting the Police Department on a series of meetings to get public comment on the Police Body Camera Policy. These meetings will continue for the next two weeks. The NCEC election timeline will be posted next week. The application process for appointed positions to the NCEC is open until April 29. Now is the time to reapplying for a seat on the NCEC. Those up for reappointment will receive an email from staff.

7. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.